

## AMERICAN SALUTE

American composer Morton Gould (1913-1996) wrote *American Salute* in 1943. He used the Civil War folksong "When Johnny Comes Marching Home" as its main theme. This melody reminded many Americans of their soldiers and sailors fighting overseas during World War II, and their hopes for a safe return.



*American Salute* is an example of THEME AND VARIATIONS. It also makes use of CALL AND RESPONSE between different groups of instruments. What do you think these terms mean? Use the spaces below to fill in their definitions.

THEME AND VARIATIONS (*sample definition*)

The main musical idea, or "theme," is presented and then repeated in varying forms or accompanied in different ways

CALL AND RESPONSE (*sample definition*)

Two distinct phrases, usually played or sung by different groups of musicians, in which the second phrase is heard as a commentary on or response to the first.

## AMERICAN SALUTE AND INSTRUMENT FAMILIES



The composer of *American Salute* made use of interplay between various instrument families and the individual instruments within them. Can you identify the instruments in each word search below? This may help you in listening to the piece!

### WOODWINDS—LOOK FOR 7 INSTRUMENTS!

S	N	X	V	M	R	E	B	F	C	M
A	O	L	O	C	C	I	P	L	W	A
X	O	P	H	I	N	Z	A	U	I	S
O	S	I	E	V	L	R	S	T	H	K
P	S	J	U	Y	I	E	L	E	P	U
H	A	A	K	N	T	D	O	W	M	N
O	B	O	E	Q	W	I	T	A	N	D
N	Z	T	T	F	Y	J	U	H	G	I
E	N	G	L	I	S	H	H	O	R	N

### BRASS—LOOK FOR 5 INSTRUMENTS!

T	E	N	E	S	O	C	C
H	R	I	J	N	R	O	H
E	A	U	P	Y	X	R	E
T	R	O	M	B	O	N	E
U	K	L	U	P	Z	E	S
B	A	A	T	L	E	T	I
A	O	F	E	A	B	T	T

(Bonus word:  
How can you change a  
brass instrument's  
sound?)

### PERCUSSION—LOOK FOR 8 INSTRUMENTS!

G	L	O	C	K	E	N	S	P	I	E	L
C	P	S	J	A	A	T	P	O	R	B	R
Y	M	A	R	I	M	B	A	I	E	M	R
M	M	U	R	D	S	S	A	B	A	O	V
B	I	J	D	X	T	I	M	P	A	N	I
A	S	N	A	R	E	D	R	U	M	F	O
L	Q	J	L	H	C	M	S	S	J	A	T
S	C	V	E	N	O	H	P	O	L	Y	X

**AMERICAN SALUTE  
CALL CHART—TEACHER'S EDITION**

*While playing the recording for students, teacher should call appropriate number at time indicated. Students should circle or otherwise indicate the correct answer. We suggest playing the piece twice through, grading and discussing as a class, then listening to the piece one last time while following along with corrected worksheets.*

<u><b>A</b></u>	<u><b>B</b></u>
<b>0:00</b> 1. flutes start alone	everyone starts together
<b>0:22</b> 2. bassoons have the melody	trumpets have the melody
<b>1:07</b> 3. melody in low winds and brass	melody in high winds and brass
<b>2:00</b> 4. melody seems much faster	melody seems slower
<b>2:28</b> 5. mood grows dark	mood grows cheerful
<b>2:38</b> 6. cornets share melody	clarinets share melody
<b>2:54</b> 7. cornets play louder	cornets add mutes
<b>3:27</b> 8. snare drum solo	call and response
<b>3:41</b> 9. timpani has melody briefly	marimba has melody briefly
<b>4:21</b> 10. everyone ends together	tubas end comically



**GIOACCHINO ROSSINI (1792-1868)**

Gioacchino Rossini was born into a family of musicians, in a small town in Northern Italy. His father, a butcher, also played the horn and ran the town band; his mother was a singer. Gioacchino first performed in public with his father's band—on the triangle! He also studied harpsichord, piano, horn, and voice. As a conservatory student, he later studied the cello.

Rossini achieved the most fame as a composer of operas. He was a lifelong devotee of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart and set the same story as one of Mozart's greatest operas. Rossini's *The Barber of Seville* looks at the earlier life of the main character in Mozart's *The Marriage of Figaro*.

Rossini's last opera, in 1829, was *William Tell*. Following this, he focused primarily on sacred and instrumental music.

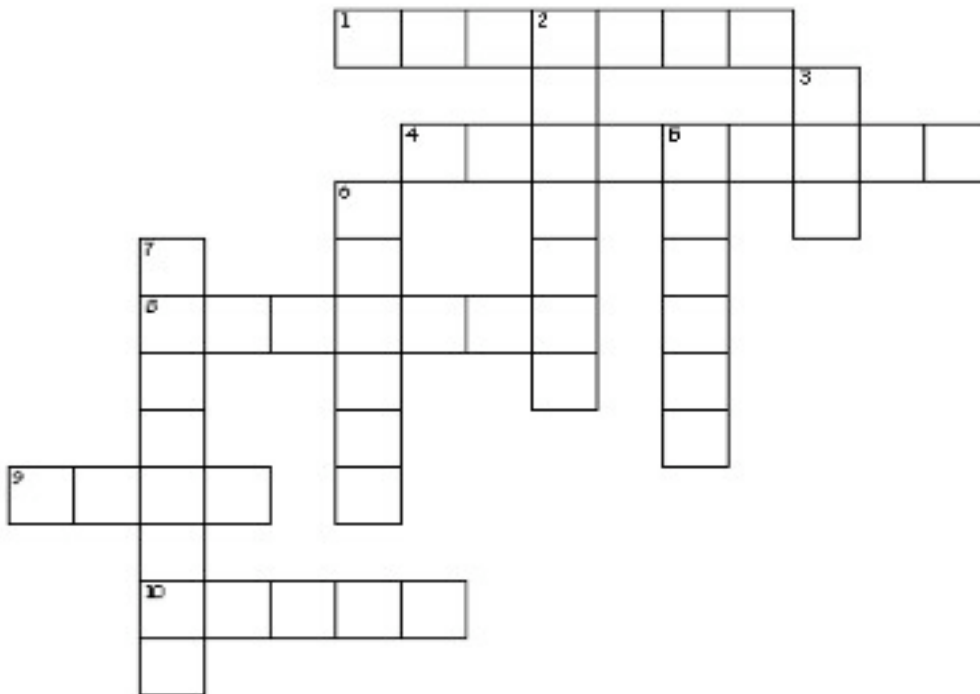
Using the Internet, encyclopedias, or other resources, answer the following questions about Gioacchino Rossini's operas. **(TEACHERS: SUGGESTED ANSWERS CAPITALIZED)**

1. How does the story in *The Barber of Seville* compare to *William Tell*?  
**BARBER IS THE STORY OF FIGARO, WHO FALLS IN LOVE WITH A YOUNG WOMAN WHOSE CARETAKER WANTS TO MARRY HER. TELL IS ABOUT THE FAMOUS SWISS MARKSMAN AND DEALS STRONGLY WITH POLITICS (ANY PLOT DESCRIPTION GIVES THE CORRECT ANSWER).**
2. Which opera is a comedy?  
**BARBER OF SEVILLE**
3. Which one of these operas is less often performed? Why?  
**WILLIAM TELL—IT IS SIX HOURS LONG.**

### CONCERTGOING CLUES

*The Barber of Seville* remains legendary for the fiasco of its opening night in 1816. Just as audiences today sometimes display poor behavior, the audience that night heckled Rossini because they admired another composer more. One of the lead singers tripped and got a nosebleed, moments before singing; a guitar broke during a love song; and in the midst of the chaos, a cat wandered onstage! Rossini actually left the theatre early and went to sleep.

Although the performers in the Field Band do not expect any cats to wander across the stage during the concert, they hope their performance might go more smoothly than *Barber's* premiere. Use these clues to make this concert successful! **(TEACHERS' ANSWERS FOLLOW EACH CLUE)**



#### ACROSS

1. Take a \_\_\_\_! **BOW**
3. Save it for the movies **POPCORN**
5. Turn it on **SMILE**
6. A performer's favorite sound **APPLAUSE**
9. Conductor stands here **PODIUM**
10. Save it for later **TALKING**

#### DOWN

2. For the very best **OVATION**
4. Turn it off **CELLPHONE**
7. You sit here **SEAT**
8. That's the \_\_\_\_! **TICKET**

## ***THE RABBIT OF SEVILLE***

**TEACHERS:** It may be helpful to you to share appropriate versions of the songs listed below as you discuss "sampling," as well with any songs you prefer which demonstrate the concept. Playing the Overture to *The Barber of Seville* and the "Wedding March" will also help to prepare your class for the concert, in which they will see a rare live performance of *The Rabbit of Seville*.

"I Think I'm in Love with You" by Jessica Simpson—

"Jack and Diane" by John Mellencamp

"Gold Digger" by Kanye West—"I've Got a Woman" by Ray Charles

"Hard Knock Life" by Jay-Z—"Hard-Knock Life" from the musical *Annie*

Musicians use samples in their songs for different reasons—whether because they like a particular sound, want to use the same rhythmic idea, or want the listener to make a specific connection when the song is played. "Hard Knock Life" is a great example of this last concept.

Carl Stalling, who composed music for Looney Tunes, was miles ahead of them all! Stalling followed the lead of centuries of composers who referenced others' works. He never called it "sampling," but his version of the overture to *Barber*—which we know as *The Rabbit of Seville*—specifically borrows from Felix Mendelssohn's "Wedding March" from *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.



### **QUESTIONS FOR CLASS DISCUSSION:**

Is this tune familiar? What do you think of when you hear it?

Why do you think Stalling might have inserted it into Rossini's overture?

How do you think it could affect the plot of the cartoon?

## Rossini 4 TE

Speaking of sampling...

The Overture to *William Tell* has become one of the most well-known in classical music, despite the rarity of the opera's performance. Dmitri Shostakovich "sampled" the overture in his Symphony No. 15. Here is a small selection of the other ways in which the Overture has been borrowed:

- Theme for the television series *The Lone Ranger*
- Commercials, including one for Ivory soap
- Cartoons, including *The Flintstones*, *Yankee Doodle Daffy* and the 1935 Mickey Mouse classic, *The Band Concert*
- Dramatic music for Stanley Kubrick's film *A Clockwork Orange*

The Overture can be divided into a four-part structure:

- Prelude
- "Storm," in which the instruments play *tutti* for the first time
- "Call to the dairy cows" (*Ranz des vaches*), featuring an English horn solo
- Finale

The Finale is the best-known of these; the trumpets lead its dramatic fanfare and are quickly joined by the rest of the brass.

The student worksheet provides a review of quarters, eighths, and sixteenths. If your students are still developing familiarity with these, use whatever symbols your students may be familiar with for depicting quarter notes (straight lines, apples, etc.)

- Following the fanfare, have students beat the quarter notes on their legs for 16 measures.
- Divide the class in 2; have half continue beating quarter notes, while the other half claps on the eighth notes as we listen again.
- Take volunteers from each group to snap continual sixteenth notes during the third listening.

Can they determine if the eighth notes or sixteenth notes are falling on the strong beats or the weak beats?

If the students are experienced enough, work as a class to write out the rhythms of the first eight measures on the board.



## ***WILLIAM TELL OVERTURE***

*William Tell* describes the legend of the Swiss patriot, who supposedly lived in the early 14<sup>th</sup> century. He refused to bow to the local leader's hat, which had been set on a pole in the middle of town, and for this was given a choice: shoot an apple off his son's head, or he and his son would be executed. Tell's defiance of this leader sparked a rebellion which resulted in the predecessor to the modern Swiss government. **[TEACHERS: SUGGESTED ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS FOLLOW IN BOLD.]**



The nation of Switzerland, located in central Europe.

Name two other governments begun through rebellions against unjust leaders:

**UNITED STATES and SOUTH AFRICA (examples)**

How might their countries compare to Switzerland today? You may need to do some research in the library or on the Internet to answer this question.

**U.S. IS A CONSTITUTIONAL REPUBLIC BASED ON REPRESENTATIVE DEMOCRACY; SWITZERLAND IS A DIRECT DEMOCRACY. SOUTH AFRICA IS A PARLIAMENTARY DEMOCRACY. (short versions of answers)**

What do you know about the 14<sup>th</sup> century that might explain why a leader could order his subjects to bow to his hat?

**[ANSWERS CAN DISCUSS FEUDALISM, LOCAL MONARCHIES, LACK OF DEMOCRACY, ETC.]**

Describe another work of art (film, song, opera, etc.) that takes an act of rebellion as its subject.

**[some examples: V FOR VENDETTA or STAR WARS (films); LES MISERABLES or EVITA (musical theater); YANKEE DOODLE or THE SOUL CAGES (songs); FINAL FANTASY series (video games)]**